## Contents

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS  
VI  

### PREFACE  
XII  

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS  
XIV  

## 1 INTRODUCTION  
2  

### 1.1 Food quality and safety – risk based control and operators’ responsibility along Food Supply Chains  
2  
1.1.1 Food quality and safety – a growing concern in global trade  
2  
1.1.2 Food quality and safety – the responsibility of governments and the private industry  
2  

### 1.2 Recent developments – brief overview on major changes in standard setting and benchmarking and related trade issues  
5  
1.2.1 World Trade Organization (WTO)  
5  
1.2.2 International Organization for Standardization (ISO)  
6  
1.2.3 European Union (EU)  
6  
1.2.4 German Food and Feed Law  
7  
1.2.5 Private standards  
8  

### 1.3 The context of this reference book  
8  
1.3.1 Food quality and safety and the EU-MEDA partnership  
– validity of this document for other export countries and commodities  
8  
1.3.2 Know how transfer on food quality and safety standards  
– how to use this reference book  
9  

## 2 GLOSSARY OF RELEVANT TERMS  
11  

## 3 MANDATORY AND VOLUNTARY STANDARDS – AN OVERVIEW  
21  

## 4 STANDARD SETTING AND/OR BENCHMARKING ORGANISATIONS  
24  

### 4.1 Multilateral organisations  
26  
4.1.1 World Trade Organization (WTO)  
26  
4.1.1.1 WTO – General provisions  
26  
4.1.1.2 WTO TBT – Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade  
29  
4.1.1.3 WTO SPS – Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures  
31  
4.1.1.4 Difference between SPS and TBT measures  
34  
4.1.1.5 WTO TRIPS – Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights  
35  
4.1.1.6 WTO DSU – Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes  
36
4.1.2 WTO-recognised standards (voluntary standards for benchmarking) 37
  4.1.2.1 Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) 37
  4.1.2.2 International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) 41
  4.1.2.3 Office Internationale des Epizooties (OIE) 42
4.1.3 Other multilateral standard setting organisations (voluntary standards) 43
  4.1.3.1 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) 43
  4.1.3.2 International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 44
  4.1.3.3 European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) 51
  4.1.3.4 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) 52
  4.1.3.5 Environmental and social standards 53
  4.1.3.6 International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance (ISEAL Alliance) 55
  4.1.3.7 GS1 The Global Language of Business – solutions for bar codes and traceability 61

4.2 European Union (EU) 62
  4.2.1 Brief introduction to EU legislature 63
  4.2.2 The EU’s Food Safety and Quality Legislation – an overview 65
  4.2.3 Food Safety
    4.2.3.1 The White Paper on Food Safety 65
    4.2.3.2 General Food Law – Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 68
    4.2.3.3 General Food Law – Institutional set-up (EC DG SANCO, EFSA, RASFF, FVO) 71
    4.2.3.4 EU Food Safety (mandatory standards) – Horizontal legislation 75
    4.2.3.5 EU Food Safety (mandatory standards) – Vertical legislation 92
  4.2.4 Food Quality
    4.2.4.1 Common Market Organisation (CMO) for fruit and vegetables – an introduction 94
    4.2.4.2 EU Food Quality (mandatory standards) – Marketing standards 97
    4.2.4.3 EU Food Quality (voluntary standards) – Protection of geographical indications and organic farming 100
  4.2.5 Harmonisation of EU Member States’ food laws
    4.2.5.1 Germany 102
    4.2.5.2 United Kingdom 103
    4.2.5.3 France 105

4.3 Private Industry and Trade Standards 106
  4.3.1 Introduction 106
  4.3.2 Classification of private standards 108
  4.3.3 Initiatives to harmonise private standards 109
    4.3.3.1 Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) 110
    4.3.3.2 International Federation for Produce Standards (IFPS) 112
  4.3.4 Collective standards – horizontal level 113
    4.3.4.1 EUREPGAP 114
    4.3.4.2 APS 116
4.3.4.3 BRC Global Standard – Food (issue 4) 117
4.3.4.4 BRC Global Standard – Storage & Distribution and Packaging 118
4.3.4.5 IFS 118
4.3.4.6 IFS Logistics 119
4.3.4.7 Dutch HACCP Code 120
4.3.4.8 FPA-SAFE 120
4.3.4.9 COCERAL 121
4.3.5 Collective standards – vertical level 121
4.3.5.1 Safe Quality Food (SQF) 122
4.3.5.2 Qualitaet und Sicherheit – Quality and Safety (QS) 123
4.3.5.3 Label Rouge 124
4.3.6 Corporate standards 125

5 STANDARDS AND SMALLHOLDERS’ INTEGRATION INTO GLOBAL FOOD CHAINS – RECOMMENDATIONS AND CASE STUDIES 129

5.1 Legal and normative framework conditions 131
5.2 Institutional set-up 135
5.3 Networking and food chain integration 138
5.4 Technology Transfer, Information and Knowledge Management 141
5.5 Further supporting initiatives 144

6 ESTABLISHING A CENTRE OF COMPETENCE (CLEARING HOUSE) ON FOOD QUALITY AND FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS 149

7 USEFUL LINKS FOR THE RESEARCH ON FOOD STANDARDS 151

7.1 European Commission (EC) and Member States’ institutions 151
7.1.1 Food Safety from the farm to the fork – information about EC policies, strategies and legislation 152
7.1.2 Export Helpdesk for Developing Countries – information about market access conditions in the EU/EU Member States 152
7.1.3 Market Access Databank – information about market access conditions in non-EU countries 153
7.1.4 Food Quality Schemes Project – information about food supply chain dynamics and quality certification 153
7.1.5 Others 153

7.2 Multilateral organisations 154
7.2.1 World Trade Organisation 154
7.2.2 Others 154
## 7.3 Further information sources on food safety

### 7.3.1 Databases and search engines

### 7.3.2 Newsletters

## 7.4 Private Standards

## 7.5 Research, Consultancy, Training

## 7.6 Associations

## 7.7 Technical assistance

## 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY